send a report of the proof of the marriage that took place to the Registrar of Marriages. The question is whether in respect of other customary marriages where there is no such register, any compulsory registration should be imposed."

*Opening of additional District Munsifs' Courts in North Arcot.*

* 7 *Q.*—Dr. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any additional District Munsifs' Courts are opened once in two years at Tiruppattur and whether any suits are transferred from Tiruppattur to Vellore on account of large pendency at Tiruppattur; and

(*b*) whether the Government have any proposal to open a permanent District Munsif's Court either at Ambur or at Gudiyatham to relieve the congestion?

The Hon. Sri K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) An Additional District Munsif was appointed to the District Munsif's Court, Tiruppattur, during the years 1943–44, 1948–49 and 1953 to relieve congestion.

In December 1951, 58 old suits relating to the Gudiyatham taluk and the Ambur firka, which are nearer to Vellore, were transferred from the District Munsif's Court at Tiruppattur, to the District Munsif's Court at Vellore, in view of the large pendency and the need for immediate relief. Of the 58 old suits referred to, 13 suits were later re-transferred to the District Munsif's Court, Tiruppattur.

" (*b*) There is no proposal to open any District Munsif's Court either at Ambur or at Gudiyatham."

Dr. C. NATHAMUNI NAIDU :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that there was no presiding Judge on duty at Vellore immediately after the re-opening of the Court after the summer recess for over fifteen days, thereby causing great inconvenience to the clients? "

The Hon. Sri K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" A separate question may be put."

*Repairs to Kondangi lake in Cuddalore.*

* 8 *Q.*—Sri M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any mahazar from the ryots of Cuddalore, South Arcot district, in the month of June 1952 to repair Kondangi lake in Cuddalore and to dig a new canal from Arisiperiangkuppam to Kondangi lake; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Raja Sri SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Yes.

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" (b) Repairs to the sluices of the Kondangi tank have already been carried out. Deepening the tank, is reported to be unnecessary as the difficulties experienced are only due to inadequate supply and not due to insufficient storage capacity. Proposals for diverting the course of the Kondangi tank supply channel have been formulated and are under examination by the Chief Engineer in consultation with the Collector."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Will the Government consider the question of digging the canal in question under Local Development programme? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The Collector has been asked to report on the Grow More Food aspects of the diversion proposals and his report is awaited."

*Purchase of portraits of national leaders.*

* 9 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the local bodies desirous of putting up statues and portraits of national leaders are required to purchase the same from prescribed agencies, and if so, who they are and how they have been selected and under what conditions;

(b) who prepared the model of Mahatma Gandhi (bust or statute) and why it is supplied to local bodies through foreign manufacturers; and

(c) what is the cost prescribed for supply of Mahatma Gandhi bust or statue to local bodies and in what proportion the cost is credited to Government and manufacturers?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" (a) Local bodies have freedom to purchase portraits of national leaders from whatever agency they choose. Government have never compelled any local body to buy them from any particular artist, though they have commended the work of certain artists.

" (b) The original model of the bust of Mahatma Gandhi was prepared by Sri D. P. Roy Chowdhury, Principal, School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, and from that model, castings in bronze were made in Italy. The technique of bronze casting as practised in India is hardly reliable for a faithful representation of the original work, particularly where touches are emphasized. Bronze statutary casting is best made in Italy. In fact all the really important statues in this country have been cast in Italy. The original bust produced by Sri D. P. Roy Chowdhury was therefore sent to Italy for casting.

" (c) The cost prescribed for the supply of a bronze bust of Mahatma Gandhi to local bodies, etc., is about Rs. 2,248.